

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 683**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Ammiano**

February 17, 2011

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An act to add Section 29 to the Health and Safety Code, relating to homeless persons.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 683, as introduced, Ammiano. Homelessness.

Under existing law, several agencies have prescribed responsibilities relating to homeless persons.

This bill would define the term homeless to include individuals and families who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and who have a primary nighttime residence that falls within one or more specified categories.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 29 is added to the Health and Safety
- 2 Code, to read:
- 3 29. For the purposes of this code, "homeless" includes
- 4 individuals or families that lack a fixed, regular, and adequate
- 5 nighttime residence and who have a primary nighttime residence
- 6 that falls within one or more of the following categories:
- 7 (a) Shelter, including anyone staying in a supervised public or
- 8 private facility that provides temporary living accommodations,

1 such as a mission or a homeless or domestic violence shelter, and  
2 including anyone displaced from housing due to a disaster situation.

3 (b) Street, including, but not limited to, the street, the sidewalk,  
4 a doorway, a park, or a freeway underpass.

5 (c) Vehicle, including anyone staying in a car, van, bus, truck,  
6 RV, or similar vehicle.

7 (d) Make-shift, including anyone staying in an enclosure or  
8 structure that is not authorized or fit for human habitation by  
9 building or housing codes, including, but not limited to, abandoned  
10 buildings, “squats,” or substandard apartments and dwellings.

11 (e) Doubled-up, including any of the following:

12 (1) Anyone staying with friends or extended family members,  
13 excluding parents and children, because they are otherwise unable  
14 to obtain housing.

15 (2) Any family with children staying in a single room  
16 occupancy (SRO) hotel room, whether or not they have tenancy  
17 rights.

18 (3) Anyone staying in temporary housing for less than six  
19 months where the accommodations provided to the person are  
20 substandard or inadequate, such as a garage, small room, or overly  
21 crowded space.

22 (f) Transitional, including any of the following:

23 (1) Anyone staying in an SRO hotel room without tenancy  
24 rights.

25 (2) Anyone formerly homeless within one of the categories  
26 described in subdivisions (a) to (e), inclusive, who is now  
27 incarcerated, hospitalized, or living in a treatment program, halfway  
28 house, or transitional housing.

29 (3) Anyone formerly homeless within one of the categories  
30 described in subdivisions (a) to (e), inclusive, who has obtained  
31 supportive housing or permanent housing for less than 30 days.